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CLAIMS

1. A guide insertion device (8; 108) suitable for the  
insertion of a guide into a check valve made of a  
5 surgical material comprising a body (10; 110)  
delimiting a duct (12; 112) for guiding the guide,  
the duct being open at its two ends, the body  
having, from a first end of the duct, a slim  
cannula (14; 114) extending along the axis of the  
10 duct and suitable for being engaged through the  
check valve, characterized in that the body (10;  
110) has a slot (24; 124) extending longitudinally  
along the length of the duct (12; 112) from one  
end to the other of this duct and opening into the  
15 duct (12; 112) along its whole length, in that the  
diameter of the duct (12; 112) along the length of  
the body (10; 110) increases progressively from  
the first end to the second end, and in that the  
outer surface of the cannula (14; 114) is  
20 generally frustoconical and flares progressively  
from said first end of the duct.
2. The guide insertion device as claimed in claim 1,  
characterized in that the body (10; 110) is formed  
25 of a single monobloc piece.
3. The guide insertion device as claimed in claim 1  
or 2, characterized in that the cannula (14; 114)  
extends over a length 50% greater than the total  
30 length of the duct (12; 112).
4. The guide insertion device as claimed in any one  
of the preceding claims, characterized in that the  
body (10; 110) comprises around the second end of  
35 the duct (12; 112) a divergent frustoconical wall  
(20; 120) axially extending said cannula (14;  
114).

5. The guide insertion device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that said frustoconical wall (20; 120) internally delimits a centering cone (22; 122) whose maximal diameter lies between 1.5 and five times its minimal diameter.

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6. The guide insertion device as claimed in claim 4 or 5, characterized in that said frustoconical wall (20; 120) internally delimits a centering cone (22; 122) whose maximal diameter lies between 3 and 8 times the minimal diameter of the duct (12; 112).

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7. The guide insertion device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the minimal diameter of the duct (112) lies between 1.5 mm and 2.5 mm.

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8. The guide insertion device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the width of the slot (124) lies between 0.08 and 0.15 mm.

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9. The guide insertion device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the ratio of the minimal diameter of the duct (112) to the width of the slot (124) lies between 12 and 22.

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10. The guide insertion device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the minimal diameter of the duct (12) lies between 0.30 mm and 1 mm.

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11. The guide insertion device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6 and 10, characterized in that the width of the slot (24) lies between 0.15 mm and 0.50 mm.

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12. The guide insertion device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6 and 11, characterized in that the ratio of the minimal diameter of the duct (12) to the width of the slot (24) lies between 5 and 9.
13. The guide insertion device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the length of the duct (12; 112) lies between 7 cm and 13 cm.
14. The guide insertion device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the body (10; 110) has two internal bevels (28) made along the whole length of the slot (24; 124) between each of the opposite side walls of the slot (24; 124) and the surface of the duct (12; 112).